

**Amendments to the Claims:**

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

**Listing of Claims:**

1.     **(Original)** A side effect-relieving agent for thiazolidine compounds which comprises a crude drug as an active ingredient comprising Ephedrae Herba, Glycyrrhizae Radix and Gypsum Fibrosum each of which is in a form of ground powders, extracts or mixtures of powders and extracts.
2.     **(Original)** The side effect-relieving agent according to Claim 1, comprising the crude drug in a form of a crude drug preparation.
3.     **(Original)** The side effect-relieving agent according to Claim 2, wherein the crude drug preparation is selected from Bofu-tsusho-san, Goko-to, Makyo-kanseki-to and Eppika-jutsu-to.
4.     **(Original)** The side effect-relieving agent according to Claim 1, wherein the thiazolidine compound is selected from pioglitazone, troglitazone, rosiglitazone and pharmaceutically acceptable salts thereof.
5.     **(Original)** The side effect-relieving agent according to Claim 1, wherein the Glycyrrhizae Radix is formulated in an amount of 0.1 to 3 parts by weight and Gypsum Fibrosum is formulated in an amount of 0.5 to 5 parts by weight on the basis of 1 part by weight of Ephedrae Herba.
6.     **(Original)** The side effect-relieving agent according to Claim 1, wherein the crude drug is coated with a coating agent or the crude drug is dispersed in a base to make a matrix form.
7.     **(Original)** The side effect-relieving agent according to Claim 1, which further contains conventional pharmaceutically acceptable additives.

8. **(Original)** A pharmaceutical formulation, which contains the side effect-relieving agent according to Claim 1 together with a thiazolidine compound.
9. **(Original)** A method of treating the side effect-relieving agent according to Claim 1 for relieving a side effect induced by a thiazolidine compound.
10. **(Currently amended)** The method according to Claim 9, wherein the side effect-relieving agent ~~according to Claim 1~~ for thiazolidine compounds which comprises a crude drug as an active ingredient comprising Ephedrae Herba, Glycyrrhizae Radix and Gypsum Fibrosum each of which is in a form of ground powders, extracts or mixtures of powders and extracts is used orally in a diabetic concomitantly with, or before or after administration of a thiazolidine compound.
11. **(Original)** A hypoglycemic effect enhancer for thiazolidine compounds which comprises a crude drug as an active ingredient comprising Ephedrae Herba, Glycyrrhizae Radix and Gypsum Fibrosum each of which is in a form of ground powders, extracts or mixtures of powders and extracts.
12. **(Original)** The hypoglycemic effect enhancer according to Claim 11, comprising the crude drug in a form of a crude drug preparation.
13. **(Original)** The hypoglycemic effect enhancer according to Claim 12, wherein the crude drug preparation is selected from Bofu-tsusho-san, Goko-to, Makyo-kanseki-to and Eppika-jutsu-to.
14. **(Original)** The hypoglycemic effect enhancer according to Claim 11, wherein the thiazolidine compound is selected from pioglitazone, troglitazone, rosiglitazone and pharmaceutically acceptable salts thereof.
15. **(Original)** The hypoglycemic effect enhancer according to Claim 11, wherein the Glycyrrhizae Radix is formulated in an amount of 0.1 to 3 parts by weight and Gypsum Fibrosum is formulated in an amount of 0.5 to 5 parts by weight on the basis of 1 part by weight of Ephedrae Herba.

16. **(Original)** The hypoglycemic effect enhancer according to Claim 11, which further contains conventional pharmaceutically acceptable additives.
17. **(Original)** The hypoglycemic effect enhancer according to Claim 11, wherein the crude drug is coated with a coating agent or the crude drug is dispersed in a base to make a matrix form.
18. **(Original)** A pharmaceutical formulation, which contains the hypoglycemic effect enhancer according to Claim 11 together with a thiazolidine compound.
19. **(Original)** A method of treating the hypoglycemic effect enhancer according to Claim 11 for enhancing a hypoglycemic effects of a thiazolidine compound.
20. **(Currently amended)** The method according to Claim 19, wherein the hypoglycemic effect enhancer ~~according to Claim 11~~ for thiazolidine compounds which comprises a crude drug as an active ingredient comprising Ephedrae Herba, Glycyrrhizae Radix and Gypsum Fibrosum each of which is in a form of ground powders, extracts or mixtures of powders and extracts is used orally in a diabetic concomitantly with, or before or after administration of a thiazolidine compound.